

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 13, 15 to 19, 24, 26 to 31, 33 to 38, and 40 to 42 were pending in the application at the time of the examination. Claim 27 was objected to for informalities. Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 13, 15 to 19, 24, 26 to 31, 33 to 38, and 40 to 42 stand rejected as obvious.

Claim 27 has been amended to correct the informality noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claim 27.

Independent Claims 1, 12, 13, 15, 24, 26, 37, 38, 40, 41, and 42 have been amended to make it clear that MOF is as defined in the specification "MOF is described in a text entitled "Meta Object Facility (MOF) Specification", Object Management Group, Inc., version 1.3, March 2000." Specification, Page 3, paragraph [0006]. The case law and the MPEP are clear that when a definition is supplied in the application that definition is used in interpreting the claims. Nevertheless, the independent claims have been amended to incorporate the definition explicitly into the claims. In view of the requirements on claim interpretation, this amendment should not require consideration of new issues or a new search and so should not affect the patentability of the claims. The amendments are made to move prosecution forward by avoiding a discussion on whether Applicants are requesting the Examiner to read limitations into the claims.

Claims 2 to 4, 8, 9, 27 to 29, 34, and 35 are amended to correct informalities created by the amendments to the independent claim from which the claims depend.

Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 13, 15 to 19, 24, 26 to 31, 33 to 38, and 40 to 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,829,770, hereinafter referred to as Hinson, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,694,506,

hereinafter referred to as LeBlanc. The rejection stated in part:

Hinson does not explicitly teach the object facility repository is a meta object facility repository. However, Hinson teaches (lines 50-57 column 7) that the invention can be implemented in combination with other program modules that implement particular abstract data types. Therefore one of ordinary skill in the art could conclude that the particular abstract data type could be metadata defining the structure of data objects and the object facility repository of Hinson could be a meta object facility repository.

Applicants respectfully traverse the obviousness rejection of Claim 1. A "Meta Object Facility repository" as recited in Claim 1 is not some abstract data type as cited in the rejection but rather a repository based on a specific standard. General knowledge about abstract data types, as cited in the rejection, fails to suggest or disclose the specific structure recited in Claim 1. The information relied upon in the secondary reference fails to overcome the shortcomings of the primary reference. Accordingly, the combination of references fails to suggest or disclose the method of Claim 1. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of Claim 1.

Claims 2 to 6 and 8 to 11 depend from Claim 1 and so distinguish over the combination for at least the same reasons as given above for Claim 1. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 2 to 6 and 8 to 11.

With respect to the obviousness rejection of Claim 12, the Examiner relies upon the rejection of Claims 1 and 6. Accordingly the above remarks with respect to Claim 1 are applicable and are incorporated herein by reference. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of Claim 12.

With respect to the obviousness rejections of independent Claims 13, 24, 37, 38, 41, and 42, each claim includes at least the limitation as discussed above with respect to Claim 12. Therefore, the above remarks with respect to Claim 12 are applicable for each of these claims and are incorporated herein by reference. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 13, 24, 37, 38, 41, and 42.

With respect to the obviousness rejections of independent Claims 15, 26, and 40 each claim includes at least the limitation as discussed above with respect to Claim 1. Therefore, the above remarks with respect to Claim 1 are applicable for each of these claims and are incorporated herein by reference. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 15, 26, and 40.

Claims 16 to 20 depended from Claim 15 and so distinguish over the prior art for at least the same reasons as Claim 15. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 16 to 20.

Claims 27 to 31 and 33 to 36 depended from Claim 26 and so distinguish over the prior art for at least the same reasons as Claim 26. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 27 to 31 and 33 to 36.

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Appl. No. 10/072,693


Amdt. dated March 29, 2006

Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2005

Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 13, 15 to 19, 24, 26 to 31, 33 to 38, and 40 to 42 remain in the application. Claims 1 to 4, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 24, 26 to 29, 34, 35, 37, 38, and 40 to 42 have been amended. Claims 7, 14, 20 to 23, 25, 32, 39, and 43 were previously canceled. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

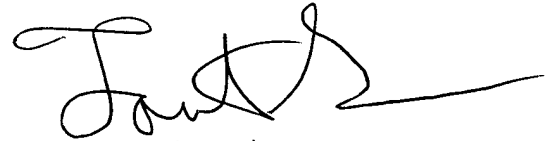
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 29, 2006.



Attorney for Applicant(s)

March 29, 2006
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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